



THE
Melbourne Athenæum.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1937.

President:

THE REV. DR. A. LAW

Immediate Past President:

L. V. BIGGS, Esq.

Vice-President:

MAJOR WILLIAM BOLTON

Hon. Treasurer:

CUTHBERT P. RIGG, Esq.

Trustees:

MESSRS. G. H. WIGG, CUTHBERT P. RIGG,
AMOS BURR.

Committee:

VERY REV. D. A. CAMERON.	MR. E. W. ROBINSON
MR. A. J. MASTERS.	„ J. B. GRUT.
„ J. A. PIETZCKER.	„ W. J. ROBERTS.
„ G. H. ROBERTS.	„ E. E. KELLY.
„ W. F. GATES.	„ W. J. TREDINNICK
„ G. A. FIELDING.	„ J. W. BAINBRIDGE
„ H. A. HUNT.	„ C. R. RIGG

Librarian:



M. DE PLEDGE.

Secretary:

R. W. E. WILMOT.

MELBOURNE:

STILLWELL & STEPHENS PTY. LTD., PRINTERS, 373 LONSDALE STREET.



THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT CURRENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED

	BUILDING.			LIBRARY.			TOTAL.		
To Balance at 1/1/37							£90	8	8
„ Subscriptions		£2,648	4 9	£2,648	4 9				
„ Rents	£3,966	14 6		3,966	14 6				
„ Sales		156	4 2	156	4 2				
„ Sundries	225	0 0		225	0 0				
„ Rail. & Postage Refunds		118	3 2	118	3 2	7,114	6 7		
	£4,191	14 6		£2,922	12 1	£7,114	6 7	£7,204	15 3
„ Balance, Library Account, Deficiency				1,447	8 2				
	£4,191	14 6		£4,370	0 3				

January 17, 1938.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT

ASSETS.	
Estimated Value of the Real Property of the Institution as per City Valuation, January, 1925 (subject to Lease to Frank Talbot Pty. Ltd., as to Theatre Portion, expiring July 15, 1967)	£80,000 0 0
Value of Lift and Improvements	3,002 14 0
Value of Library	1,500 0 0
Value of Furniture	500 0 0
Bank Balance	324 11 6
	£85,327 5 6

WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENAEUM.
31st DECEMBER, 1937.

	BUILDING.			LIBRARY.			TOTAL.		
By Interest	£458	10 2		£458	10 2				
„ Salaries and Wages	585	0 2	£1,565	3 4	2,150	3 6			
„ Books, Magazines, etc.			1,617	9 0	1,617	9 0			
„ Light, Heat and Power	128	12 9	128	12 10	257	5 7			
„ Repairs	58	18 0	23	2 5	82	0 5			
„ Goods and Sundries	71	9 5	71	9 5	142	18 10			
„ Rates and Taxes	809	2 9			809	2 9			
„ Insurance	291	4 4	15	10 4	306	14 8			
„ Binding			159	16 9	159	16 9			
„ Printing and Stationery			114	3 8	114	3 8			
„ Postages and Petty Cash	25	0 0	75	2 0	100	2 0			
„ Rail. & Postage Refunds			118	3 2	118	3 2			
„ Advertising			70	10 6	70	10 6			
„ Auditors	13	2 6	39	7 6	52	10 0			
„ Law Costs	39	5 7			39	5 7			
„ Lift Maintenance	20	13 4	20	13 4	41	6 8			
„ Bank Charges and Exch.			307	19 1	307	19 1			
„ Furniture and Equipment			33	12 6	33	12 6			
„ Telephone	9	4 6	9	4 5	18	8 11	£6,880	3 9	
„ Balance— Cash in Bank and in Hand									324 11 6
	£2,510	3 6	£4,370	0 3	£6,880	3 9	£7,204	15 3	
„ Balance, Building A/c., Surplus			1,681	11 0					
	£4,191	14 6	£4,370	0 3					

Audited and found correct.

WILSON, BISHOP & HENDERSON }
L. N. RAINEY } Auditors.
Chartered Accountants (Australia)

OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

LIABILITIES.	
Loans under Mortgage, due July, 1939, at 4½ per cent.	£10,750 0 0
Balance (subject to Lease as per Contra)	74,577 5 6
	£85,327 5 6

CUTHBERT RIGG, Treasurer.

The Melbourne Athenæum.



188 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE

January 13, 1938.

NOTICE is hereby given that—

The ANNUAL MEETING of the Institution will be held in the Art Gallery, on **Friday, January 28,** at **Eight p.m.**

Your attendance is requested.

BUSINESS.—Annual Report and Balance Sheet.

General.

R. W. E. WILMOT, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM,

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

*To be submitted to the Members at the General Meeting,
Friday, January 28, 1938, at 8 p.m.*

THE Committee of the Melbourne Athenæum submits its report of the transactions of the year 1937, which is the ninety-eighth since the foundation of the Institution.

THE COMMITTEE.—There were 12 meetings of the General Committee during the year.

The President, DR. A. LAW	attended	9
The Vice-President, MAJOR BOLTON .. .. .	.. .. .	12
Trustee, MR. G. H. WIGG .. .. .	.. .. .	1
Trustee and Treasurer, MR. CUTHBERT RIGG .. .. .	.. .. .	12
Trustee MR. W. A. CALLAWAY .. .. .	.. .. .	2
Immediate Past President, MR. L. V. BIGGS .. .. .	.. .. .	5

COMMITTEE

Mr. Masters	attended	11	Mr. Hunt	attended	12
Mr. G. H. Roberts .. .. .	.. .. .	9	Very Rev. D. A. Cameron .. .. .	.. .. .	9
Mr. Fielding .. .. .	.. .. .	6	Mr. A. C. Mills .. .. .	.. .. .	2
Mr. Robinson .. .. .	.. .. .	8	Mr. W. J. Roberts .. .. .	.. .. .	10
Mr. Grut .. .. .	.. .. .	12	Mr. Kelly .. .. .	.. .. .	11
Mr. Pietzeker .. .. .	.. .. .	4	Mr. Tredinnick .. .. .	.. .. .	8
Mr. Gates .. .. .	.. .. .	11	Mr. Bainbridge .. .. .	.. .. .	4
			Mr. C. B. Rigg .. .. .	.. .. .	2

The Finance Committee, Messrs. Rigg (Chairman), Masters, Grut, Wigg, W. J. Roberts, Kelly, Burr, C. R. Rigg, Bainbridge, Major Bolton and the President; the Library Committee, Messrs. Gates (Chairman), Biggs, G. H.

Roberts, Hunt, Fielding, Robinson, Tredinnick, the President and the Treasurer; the House Committee, Major Bolton (Chairman), Messrs. Hunt, Tredinnick, the Very Rev. D. A. Cameron, the President and the Treasurer, held the usual meetings, and thus attended regularly to the various departments of The Institution.

RETIRING MEMBERS.—The President, Vice-President, Treasurer and the following members of the General Committee, who are eligible for re-election, retire from office by effluxion of time:—Messrs. Masters, G. H. Roberts, Fielding, Robinson, Grut, C. R. Rigg and J. W. Bainbridge.

Your Committee records with deep regret the death of Mr. W. A. Callaway, the Senior Trustee of The Institution. Mr. Callaway had been a member since 1873, and thus had an unbroken record of membership of 64 years. He was elected to the Committee in 1891, and he was appointed a Trustee in 1912. He had been an enthusiastic worker for The Institution for 46 years. His wide experience and sound judgment were highly appreciated, and his colleagues mourn the loss of a wise counsellor.

Mr. Amos Burr was elected to the vacant Trusteeship on May 9, 1937.

Mr. J. W. Bainbridge was elected to the vacancy on the Committee caused by the appointment of Mr. Burr as Trustee on June 11, 1937.

Mr. A. C. Mills resigned from the Committee on July 16, on account of pressure of business, and was thanked for his services.

Mr. C. R. Rigg was appointed to the vacancy on August 13.

Mr. J. A. Pietzcker resigned from the Committee on January 14, 1938, and was thanked for his services, extending over nine years.

FINANCIAL.—The statement of accounts is again shown in columnar form, under the headings of Building and Library. The main object of this is to enable members to realise the value of the service they receive.

The gross receipts from all sources amounted to £7,114/6/7, an increase of £69/0/3 on the amount received in 1936 (£7,045/6/4).

The gross expenditure amounted to £6,880/3/9, a reduction of £256/10/6 on the figures of 1936 (£7,136/14/3).

Commencing the year with a credit balance of £90/8/8, there was a credit balance of £324/11/6 at December 31, 1937.

In view of the improved financial position, the Committee was able to restore to the staff the reduction of 10 per cent. made in salaries and wages.

The Building Account is credited with all rents received. It has charged against it Interest (£458/10/2), Rates and Taxes (£809/2/9) and Law Costs (£39/5/7). In the other items the charges are divided between the Building and Library Accounts in proportion to the services rendered.

The Library Account is credited with the amount received from subscriptions (£2,648/4/9) and Sales (£156/4/2). The main charges against the Library are Books, Magazines and Newspapers (£1,617/9/-), Exchange and Bank Charges (£307/19/1), and Salaries and Wages (proportion, £1,565/3/4).

It will be seen from the statement that the Building Account shows a surplus of £1,681/11/-, and the Library Account shows a deficiency of £1,447/8/2.

PROGRESS OF THE INSTITUTION.—The following table shows the progress of The Institution during the last ten years:—

	Subscriptions.	Purchase of Books, etc.	Gross Receipts.
1928 . . .	£2792 17 0	£1719 1 5	£7372 18 9
1929 . . .	2937 18 0	1847 9 4	7517 4 8
1930 . . .	2994 15 6	1889 14 2	7620 6 4
1931 . . .	3082 2 0	1829 9 1	7677 16 0
1932 . . .	3163 7 9	1815 14 3	7122 10 4
1933 . . .	3092 8 6	1676 10 7	7073 17 5
1934 . . .	2763 9 3	1583 6 7	6772 11 4
1935 . . .	2708 15 0	1833 11 4	6746 3 3
1936 . . .	2655 6 6	1638 4 3	7045 6 4
1937 . . .	2648 4 9	1617 9 0	7114 6 7

THE LIBRARY.—Although the amount received in subscriptions shows a slight decrease, the popularity of the Library and Reading Room has by no means lessened. The competition of libraries in the suburbs and in city commercial houses is still strong and has to be seriously combatted. The facilities provided in the Library in its lending and reference branches, and in the Reading Room, are unsurpassed. The privilege of having the Library and Reading Room open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, including Saturdays and on all public holidays, except Christmas Day, Good Friday and Anzac Day, is not available elsewhere and is particularly appreciated by members living in the city and the nearer suburbs.

Early in the year your Committee considered the report of Mr. W. C. Baud, a senior member of the staff of the Public Library, regarding the reclassification and rearrangement of the Library. Mr. Baud's recommendations were adopted and the work, which entailed a deal of skill and labour, was carried out by the Librarian and his staff. The result was satisfactory, for the pressure on shelf space was immediately reduced and enabled the books to be more easily reached. The Library has never been in better condition than it is at present, and under the new arrangements the comfort of members, as well as the rendering of more efficient service to them, have been carefully considered.

The supply of books, magazines and newspapers has been increased, but improved buying methods have resulted in considerable reduction of cost.

Your Committee feels that the advantages provided by the Library should be more widely known, and it urges members to do all in their power to enlist new members. The quarterly lists of books added to the Library provide much information, and members are invited to distribute these among their friends.

Your Committee acknowledges with thanks the gift by Mr. E. E. Kelly of an electric fan for the Library.

The following donations of works have been kindly made:—

- The Australian Chivalry, by J. A. Pietzcker, Esq.
- For the Term of His Natural Life, by Filmore Clarke, Esq.
- The Australian Stamp Monthly, by A. A. Rosenblum, Esq.
- Headway, by Miss Colville.
- The Australian Board of Missions Review, by A.B.M. Society.
- The Church of England Messenger, by the Diocese of Melbourne.
- The Theosophist by the Theosophical Society.
- The Presbyterian Messenger, by Messrs. Arbuckle, Waddell Pty. Ltd.
- The Christian Science Monitor and Sentinel, from First Church of Christ Scientist, Melbourne.
- The Commonweal, by the Rev. Dr. Chas. Strong.
- The New Zealand Local Authority Handbook, by the Government of New Zealand.
- Bradshaw's Guide to Victoria, by Stillwell and Stephens Pty. Ltd.
- New Zealand Parliamentary Papers, by the Government of New Zealand.
- The Rosierucian Digest, by the Rosierucian Order.

MELBOURNE CHESS CLUB.—The new agreement with the Melbourne Chess Club, whereby it becomes the tenant of The Institution, came into force on April 1, 1937. The new arrangement is working satisfactorily, and your Committee looks forward to the club making great progress. The Chess Club had a formal opening of its rooms on August 21, 1937, when Sir Isaac Isaacs performed the ceremony. The President of the Club, Mr. L. V. Biggs, entertained a large company at afternoon tea. The club is increasing steadily.

PLAY READING SOCIETY.—The Play Reading Society has held regular monthly meetings. The enthusiasm of its executive has not, however, been adequately supported. Your Committee urges members to support the society by their attendance. The meetings, which are held on the third Friday in each month, are open to members of The Institution, who are cordially invited to attend. The section in the Library which is devoted to plays is very popular, and those members who attend the meetings of the Play Reading Society derive much benefit therefrom.

ART GALLERY.—The Art Gallery continues to be most popular, and some notable exhibitions were held during the year.

Art exhibitions were held by Messrs. John Sefton, H. Septimus Power, Max Meldrum, W. Hunter, John Farmer, John W. Elescher (sculptor), Miles Evergood, Charles Wheeler, Harley C. Griffiths, John Gardner, John Eldershaw and Sir Arthur Streeton; Misses Alma Figuerola, Jo Sweatman and Cumbræ Stewart. Combined exhibitions were also held by "Group 12," The New Melbourne Art Club, The Contemporary Art Group, Twenty Melbourne Painters, Melbourne Society of Women Painters, The Victorian Salon of Photography and The New Group.

That the gallery still retains its position as the best in Melbourne is shown by the continued support it receives from artists and the general public, and by the fact that there are no vacant dates and a waiting list has had to be established.

LECTURES.—A series of lectures held during the year on "Public Utilities" proved popular, and the attendances showed a marked increase on previous years.

The lectures were:—"From the Fire Brigade Watch Tower," Mr. John Wilkins, Chief Officer, Metropolitan Fire Brigade (Chairman, Major William Bolton); "Some Sidelights on the Board of Works," Mr. F. L. King, Secretary, Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Chairman, Mr. W. F. Gates); "The Romance of the Post Office," Mr. R. N. Partington, Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Melbourne (Chairman, the President, the Rev. Dr. A. Law); "Railways Far and Wide," Mr. Harold Clapp, Chairman, Victorian Railways Commissioners (Chairman, Major William Bolton); "The Service Behind the Switch," Mr. G. G. Jobbins, Engineer and Manager, Electricity Supply Department, State Electricity Commission (Chairman, Mr. L. V. Biggs).

The thanks of The Institution are due to the lecturers for their services.

A. LAW, President.

R. W. E. WILMOT, Secretary.

Magazines & Periodicals Available in the Reading Room.

PAPERS.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Belfast Weekly News
British Weekly
Christian Science Monitor
Christian Herald
Christian World
Church Guardian
Church Times
Financial News
Glasgow Herald (Weekly)
Headway
Irish Weekly
Liverpool Weekly Post
Manchester Guardian
Methodist Recorder
New York Times
Reynold's
Time and Tide
Times (London)
Times Literary Supplement
Times' Weekly
Travel Bulletin
Weekly Scotsman
White Star Magazine

AUSTRALASIAN.

Victoria—Melbourne.

Age
Argus
Herald
Australasian
Leader
Presbyterian Messenger
Spectator
Sun News Pictorial
Table Talk
Weekly Times

Victoria—Provincial.

Ararat Advertiser
Ballarat Courier
Bendigo Advertiser
Geelong Advertiser
Ovens and Murray Advertiser
Rutherglen Sun
Stawell News
Wangaratta Chronicle
Warrnambool Standard

New South Wales.

Bulletin
Referee
Smith's Weekly
Sydney Mail
Sydney Morning Herald
Sun
Sunday Sun and Guardian
Telegraph Pictorial

South Australia.

The Advertiser
The Chronicle

Queensland.

Courier-Mail (Brisbane)
Queenslander

Western Australia.

The West Australian
Western Mail

Tasmania.

Mercury (Hobart)
Examiner (Launceston)

New Zealand.

Weekly News (Auckland)

PERIODICALS.

British.

Architect
Blue Peter
Britannia and Eve
British Australasian
Bystander
Country Life
Dublin Review
Economist
English Mechanic
Field
Harper's Bazaar
Illustrated London News
Inquirer
Jewish Chronicle
John o'London's Weekly
Lancet
Landmark
London Punch
Mercantile Guardian
Mining Journal
Nation and Athenaeum
Nature
New Statesman
Public Opinion
Queen
Saturday Review
Science Progress
Sketch
Spectator
Sphere
Sporting and Dramatic News
Studio

Sunday Companion

Sunday At Home

Tablet

Tatler

Time and Tide

Truth (London)

Vogue

Women's Journal

American.

Delineator

Ladies' Home Journal

Literary Digest

Rosicrucian Digest

Saturday Evening Post

Scientific American

Theosophist

French.

Je Sais Tout

L'illustration

Australasian.

A.B.M. Review

Adam and Eve

Australasian Insurance and Banking Record (Melb.)

Australasian Manufacturer (Sydney)

Australasian Traveller

Australian Banker

Australian Brewing and Wine Journal (Melb.)

Australian Christian World (Sydney)

Australian Museum

Australian Stamp Monthly

Building Construction

Church of England Messenger (Melb.)

Government Gazette of Victoria

Home Beautiful

Industrial Australian and Mining Standard (Melb.)

Jobson's Investment Digest

Leather Journal

Presbyterian Messenger

Spectator (Melbourne)

The Bookseller and Stationer's Journal

The Commonweal

White Star Magazine

Woman's World

Magazines for Circulation in the Library.

PERIODICALS.		
British.		
Adelphi	Nineteenth Century	Judge
Argosy	Pearson's	Magazine Digest
Blackwood's	Quarterly Review	Modern Mechanix
Chambers' Journal	Round Table	National Geographical
Contemporary Review	Strand	New Yorker
Cornhill	Wide World	North American Review
Discovery	Windsor	Photo-Play
English Review	World Review	Physical Culture
Fortnightly Review	American.	Popular Mechanics
Geographical Magazine	Adventure	Popular Science
Gramophone	American Mercury	Psychology Digest
Grand	Atlantic Monthly	Readers Digest
Hibbert Journal	Blue Book	Red Book
Mercury	Book Digest	Review of Reviews
Musical Times	Collier's	Saturday Evening Post
Nash's	Complete Stories	Science Digest
National Review	Coronet	Scribner's
New Criterion Quarterly	Cosmopolitan	Time
	Current History	World Digest
	Esquire	French.
	Etude	Revue des Deux Mondes
	Forum	Revue de Paris
	Good Housekeeping	Australasian.
	Harper's	Life

MEMBERSHIP.

Members have the right to the use of the Lending and Reference Library, the Reading and Smoking Rooms, and to borrow a book and a magazine as often as necessary.

The Subscription Rates are:—

	Quarterly	Half-yearly	Yearly
1 Volume and Magazine ..	0 7 6	0 12 6	1 1 0
2 Volumes and Magazine	0 12 6	1 0 0	1 11 6
3 Volumes and Magazine	0 16 0	1 7 6	2 2 0

The Library and Reading Room are open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, except Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and Anzac Day.